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September 2010 Research Seminar

September 27, 2010

The Center is proud to announce the success of the September 2010 Research Seminar. Morgan Miles and David Shepherd presented their research on *Burnout in Entrepreneurship and Family Firms*. Gaia Marchisio, another member of the research team, was unfortunately unable to attend. The team's research focused on understanding the occurrence of burnout in family firms, which may be unique due to the presence and influence of the family. There were several faculty members and Ph. D. students in attendance.

Morgan and David began by explaining the phenomenon of burnout. The Maslach stream of research identified three aspects of burnout, exhaustion, inefficacy, and depersonalization. Research on entrepreneurs and burnout identified several antecedents, such as personal, environment, and work/role stress. The two then described the outcomes of burnout, reduced satisfaction and lower organizational commitment to name a few.

The exploratory side of their research tested three propositions, which were that role conflict, frustration, and pressure were all positively related to burnout in family owned businesses. The team used a survey as their method of choice and discovered that only one of their propositions was supported, role pressure and burnout were positively related.

As a close to their presentation, the team explained that burnout in family firms may be unique since owning a business may be more than a job. The business affects the entire lives of the family.

We thank Morgan, David, Gaia, and all of the faculty and Ph. D. students who attended.

Elon Medal for Entrepreneurial Leadership

September 27, 2010

In the interests of commiserating with [Elon](#) following their recent loss to Georgia Southern on Saturday please feel free to attend the event listed – it does sound interesting.

You are cordially invited to attend the presentation of the Elon Medal for Entrepreneurial Leadership. Dr. Bernard Harris, Jr., Astronaut and CEO of Vesalius Ventures, will be the featured speaker and be recognized for his accomplishments as one of the country's premier entrepreneurial leaders. Feel free to invite students and others interested in entrepreneurship.

What: Elon Medal for Entrepreneurial Leadership

Who: Dr. Bernard Harris, Jr. Astronaut and CEO of Vesalius Ventures

Dr. Harris is an entrepreneur and innovator in biomedical research and technologies. He was at NASA for ten years, where he conducted the first telemedicine conference from space with the Mayo Clinic and logged more than 438 hours and 7.2 million miles in space. As Payload Commander on Space Shuttle Discovery STS-63 in 1995, he served on the first flight of the joint Russian-American Space Program, becoming the "First African American to walk in Space."

His firm, Vesalius Ventures, invests in early to mid-stage healthcare technologies and companies.

The recipient of the inaugural Elon University Medal for Entrepreneurial Leadership was Jim Goodnight, CEO of Raleigh, N.C.-based software company SAS.

When: October 20, 2010 4:30 pm

Where: Elon University, Whitley Auditorium (reception following on Long Patio)

Presented by: Elon University, Love School of Business, Doherty Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership

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